What is claimed is:

1.   1.   A method of establishing a call session over a packet-based network,

2   comprising:

3   receiving, in a first switch, a call request over the packet-based network

4   from a first terminal associated with a logical identifier, the call request targeting a

5   second terminal coupled to a second switch;

6   storing, in the first switch, information relating to features of the first

7   terminal, the information associated with the logical identifier;

8   sending, from the first switch, a request over a packet-based trunk to the

9   second switch in response to the call request; and

10   sending, from the first switch to the first terminal, a media connection

11   request containing a network address of the second terminal to enable the first terminal to

12   establish a media path with the second terminal over the packet-based network.

1.   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call request comprises

2   receiving an off-hook indication and a dialed number.

1.   3.   The method of claim 2, wherein receiving the call request comprises

2   receiving a network address of the first terminal.

1.   4.   The method of claim 3, further comprising determining the logical

2   identifier based on the network address.

1.   5.   The method of claim 2, wherein the network address comprises an Internet

2   Protocol address.

1.   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the logical identifier comprises a virtual

2   terminal number.

1.   7.   The method of claim 1, further comprising accessing the information in

2   response to the call request to perform a predetermined action.

1   8.   The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the call request comprises

2   receiving an indication of activation of a button on the first terminal.

1   9.   The method of claim 8, wherein accessing the information comprises

2   accessing the information to determine an action to perform in response to the activation

3   of the button.

1   10.   The method of claim 1, wherein storing the information comprises storing

2   the information in a profile associated with the logical identifier.

1   11.   The method of claim 10, further comprising storing other profiles of other

2   terminals associated with other logical identifiers.

1   12.   The method of claim 1, wherein storing the information comprises storing

2   configuration information relating to one or more buttons of the first terminal.

1   13.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the second switch sending a

2   second media connection request to the second terminal, the second media connection

3   request containing a network address of the first terminal to enable the second terminal to

4   establish a media path with the first terminal over the packet-based network

1   14.   A switch system for establishing calls over a packet-based network,

2   comprising:

3   an interface adapted to communicate over the packet-based network;

4   a controller communicatively coupled to the interface and adapted to

5   receive a call request from a first terminal, the first terminal associated with a logical

6   identifier, the call request targeting a second terminal that is coupled to a second switch

7   system,

8   the controller adapted to further send signaling to the second switch

9   system over a packet-based trunk provided over the packet-based network; and

10   a storage unit containing information relating to features of the first

11   terminal, the information associated with the logical identifier of the first terminal.

1   15.   The system of claim 14, wherein the logical identifier comprises a virtual

2   terminal number.

1   16.   The system of claim 15, wherein the storage unit further comprises a table

2   mapping the virtual terminal number to a network address.

1   17.   The system of claim 16, wherein the network address comprises an

2   Internet Protocol address.

1   18.   The system of claim 16, wherein the table comprises plural virtual

2   terminal numbers mapped to corresponding plural network addresses.

1   19.   The system of claim 14, wherein the storage unit contains a profile

2   associated with the logical identifier of the first terminal, the profile containing the

3   information relating to features.

1   20.   The system of claim 19, wherein the storage unit contains at least another

2   profile associated with at least another logical identifier of another terminal.

1   21.   The system of claim 14, wherein the signaling between the switch systems

2   comprise signaling to determine if the second terminal is a network terminal capable of

3   communicating over the packet-based terminal.

1   22.   An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions

2   that when executed cause a first switch to:

3   receive a request over a packet-based network from a first terminal, the

4   terminal associated with a logical identifier;

5   access a profile associated with the logical identifier; and

6   use information in the profile to send signaling to a second switch to

7   establish a call session with a second terminal.

1   23.   A data signal embodied in a carrier wave and comprising instructions that

2   when executed cause a first switch to:

3   receive a call request over the packet-based network from a first terminal

4   associated with a logical identifier, the call request targeting a second terminal coupled to

5   a second switch;

6   store information relating to features of the first terminal, the information

7   associated with the logical identifier;

8   send a request over a packet-based trunk to the second switch in response

9   to the call request; and

10   send a media connection request to the first terminal containing a network

11   address of the second terminal to enable the first terminal to establish a media path with

12   the second terminal over the packet-based network.